

Date: Wed, 30 Jun 93 12:35:45 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #800
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Wed, 30 Jun 93 Volume 93 : Issue 800

Today's Topics:

 30M contacts for DXCC
 Field Day = Contest Day = ARRL Double-Crosses us Again!
 Good Band for CW QRP Operation
 Guide to the Personal Radio Newsgroups
 Ham Comm 2.0 circuit
 Need advice re: direction finding @ 900MHz (2 msgs)
 Number for W & W Associates Needed
 Operation in Tanzania
 Repeater coordination, complaints?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 30 Jun 93 18:45:24 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: 30M contacts for DXCC
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

> Another thing favoring 30m is the fact that DX worked there *doesn't*
> count for DXCC. Kinda helps reduce pile-ups a bit...

Is this true?

I know you can't get a 5BDXCC endorsement on 30. From the rules:

The 5BDXCC is endorsable for these additional bands: 160, 17, 12,
6, and 2 meters. 5BDXCC qualifiers are eligible for an

individually engraved plaque (at a charge of \$25.00 US).

--
Scott Ginsburg Voice: 508-436-3836
Wellfleet Communications Internet: ginsburg@wellfleet.com
2 Federal St. Amateur Radio: WA2CJT
Billerica, MA 01821 Packet: wa2cjt@n0ary.#nocal.ca.usa.na

Date: Wed, 30 Jun 93 17:51:22 GMT
From: mnemosyne.cs.du.edu!nyx!lkollar@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Field Day = Contest Day = ARRL Double-Crosses us Again!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Off-topic, but I had to say this. Sorry.

alan@olin.es.com (Alan Brubaker) writes:

> ... Most of us can tell you that it is not easy. If you do not
> believe me, try making any QSOs on 20 meters SSB with 100 watts and
> a dipole.

Maybe now that the sunspot cycle is heading for the abyss... but I had no trouble at all last summer with 20 watts PEP and a dipole. Now if you're busting through a DX pileup or working a hot contest, that's different. 100W or less is no trouble for casual operating.

But when the power supply crapped out -- that was trouble! Anybody know of a source for high-voltage filter caps?

--
Larry Kollar, KC4WZK | 'finger lkollar' for ham-related interests.
lkollar@nyx.cs.du.edu | "Didn't vote for the lottery - won't play it."

Date: Wed, 30 Jun 1993 18:43:08 GMT
From: newsflash.concordia.ca!nstn.ns.ca!news.ucs.mun.ca!kean.ucs.mun.ca!
jcraig@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Good Band for CW QRP Operation
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <29JUN199311422691@rcinet>, hsdrpb@rcinet (Richard P. Bonczek) writes:
> Hello,
>
> After about twelve years away from CW, and seven years away from
> HF in general, I am thinking about getting into CW QRP operation.
>

> I saw the QST review in the July 1993 issue, page 45 on the MFJ 9017
> CW QRP transceiver. The article talks about the 18 MHz model.
>
> My question is, Which band 40, 20, 18 MHz or 15 meters would be best?
> My CW skills are poor at best. I just downloaded Super Morse from the
> ARRL BBS to sharpen my CW skills. I would like to start on the Novice
> bands. (my present class is General) But 40 meters has broadcasting
> stations at night, and 15 meters is dead at night and in the summer.
>
> Does anyone have any experience on 20 QRP or 18 MHZ?

I'd say 20 m is your best bet. 40 has a lot of QRN esp. during summer. 18 isn't as heavily populated as the other bands and with the declining solar activity, 15 will be less popular. 14.060 Mc is the international QRP freq. on 20m.

I have fond memories of my HW-8, a pair of lantern batteries and an inverted vee (apex at 10') on a beach. 2 watts was easily heard all over Europe. Then there was my V07NA/MM/QRP operation on a 37' boat 5 years ago. I still find it hard to believe I worked all continents with less than 2 watts output on 20m.

The secret to QRP operation is patience, persistence and a good antenna. Have fun!!

73 Joe, V01NA

Date: Wed, 30 Jun 1993 17:27:52 GMT
From: pravda.sdsc.edu!news.cerf.net!usc!math.ohio-state.edu!uwm.edu!
ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!moe.ksu.ksu.edu!crcnis1.unl.edu!news.unomaha.edu!
news@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Guide to the Personal Radio Newsgroups
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Posted-By: auto-faq 2.4
Archive-name: radio/personal-intro
Revision: 1.4 06/30/93 12:04:14
Changes: new rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups, cs.utexas.edu gateway

(Note: The following is reprinted with the permission of the author.
Due to the recent reorganization, it is also on a temporarily-accelerated posting schedule as follows:

July weekly
August bi-weekly
September back to monthly)

This message describes the rec.radio.amateur.*, rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.info,

and rec.radio.swap newsgroups. It is intended to serve as a guide for the new reader on what to find where. Questions and comments may be directed to the author, Jay Maynard, K5ZC, by Internet electronic mail at jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu. This message was last changed on 30 June 1993 to add the groups created during the latest reorganization vote and the description of the cs.utexas.edu gateway.

History

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Way back when, before there was a Usenet, the Internet hosted a mailing list for hams, called (appropriately enough) INFO-HAMS. Ham radio discussions were held on the mailing list, and sent to the mailboxes of those who had signed up for it. When the Usenet software was created, and net news as we now know it was developed, a newsgroup was created for hams: net.ham-radio. The mailing list and the newsgroup were gatewayed together, eventually.

As the net grew, and as packet radio came into vogue, packet discussion began to dominate other topics in the group and on the list. This resulted in the logical solution: a group was created to hold the packet discussion, and another corresponding mailing list was created as well: net.ham-radio.packet and PACKET-RADIO, respectively.

These two groups served for several years, and went through Usenet's Great Renaming essentially unchanged, moving from net.ham-radio[.packet] to rec.ham-radio[.packet]. Readership and volume grew with the rest of the network.

The INFO-HAMS mailing list was originally run from a US Army computer at White Sands Missile Range, SIMTEL20. There were few problems with this arrangement, but one was that the system was not supposed to be used for commercial purposes. Since one of hams' favorite pastimes is swapping gear, it was natural for hams to post messages about equipment for sale to INFO-HAMS/rec.ham-radio. This ran afoul of SIMTEL20's no-commercial-use restriction, and after some argument, a group was created specifically for messages like that: rec.ham-radio.swap. This group wasn't gatewayed to a mailing list, thus avoiding problems.

While all this was happening, other folks wanted to discuss other aspects of the world of radio than the personal communications services. Those folks created the rec.radio.shortwave and rec.radio.noncomm newsgroups, and established the precedent of the rec.radio.* hierarchy, which in turn reflected Usenet's overall trend toward a hierarchical name structure.

The debate between proponents of a no-code ham radio license and its opponents grew fierce and voluminous in late 1989 and 1990. Eventually, both sides grew weary of the debate, and those who had not been involved even more so. A proposal for a newsgroup dedicated to licensing issues failed. A later

proposal was made for a group that would cover the many recurring legal issues discussions. During discussion of the latter proposal, it became clear that it would be desirable to fit the ham radio groups under the rec.radio.* hierarchy. A full-blown reorganization was passed by Usenet voters in January 1991, leading to the overall structure we now use.

After the reorganization, more and more regular information postings began to appear, and were spread out across the various groups in rec.radio.*. Taking the successful example of the news.answers group, where informational postings from across the net are sent, the group rec.radio.info was created in December, 1992, with Mark Salyzyn, VE6MGS, initially serving as moderator.

In January, 1993, many users started complaining about the volume in rec.radio.amateur.misc. This led to a discussion about a second reorganization, which sparked the creation of a mailing list by Ian Kluft, KD6EUI. This list, which was eventually joined by many of the most prolific posters to the ham radio groups, came up with a proposal to add 11 groups to the rec.radio.amateur hierarchy in April 1993. The subsequent vote, held in May and early June, approved the creation of five groups: rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc (to replace .packet), .equipment, .homebrew, .antenna, and .space.

The Current Groups

I can hear you asking, "OK, so this is all neat history, but what does it have to do with me now?" The answer is that the history of each group has a direct bearing on what the group is used for, and what's considered appropriate where.

The easy one is rec.radio.amateur.misc. It is what rec.ham-radio was renamed to during the reorganization. Any message that's not more appropriate in one of the other groups belongs here, from contesting to DX to ragchewing on VHF to information on becoming a ham.

The group rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc is for discussions related to (surprise!) digital amateur radio. This doesn't have to be the common two-meter AX.25 variety of packet radio, either; some of the most knowledgeable folks in radio digital communications can be found here, and anything in the general area is welcome. The name was changed to emphasize this, and to encourage discussion not only of other text-based digital modes, such as AMTOR, RTTY, and Clover, but things like digital voice and video as well. The former group, rec.radio.amateur.packet, has not been removed as of this writing, but it is obsolete, and you should use .digital.misc instead. The group has the .misc as part of the name to allow further specialization if the users wish it, such as .digital.tcp-ip.

The swap group is now rec.radio.swap. This recognizes a fact that became

evident shortly after the original group was formed: Hams don't just swap ham radio gear, and other folks besides hams swap ham equipment. If you have radio equipment, or test gear, or computer stuff that hams would be interested in, here's the place. Equipment wanted postings belong here too. Discussions about the equipment generally don't; if you wish to discuss a particular posting with the buyer, email is a much better way to do it, and the other groups, especially .equipment and .homebrew, are the place for public discussions. There is now a regular posting with information on how to go about buying and selling items in rec.radio.swap; please refer to it before you post there.

The first reorganization added two groups to the list, one of which is rec.radio.amateur.policy. This group was created as a place for all the discussions that seem to drag on interminably about the many rules, regulations, legalities, and policies that surround amateur radio, both existing and proposed. The neverending no-code debate goes here, as does the New Jersey scanner law, the legality of ordering a pizza on the autopatch, what a bunch of rotten no-goodniks the local frequency coordinating body is, and so on.

The other added group is rec.radio.cb. This is the place for all discussion about the Citizens' Band radio service. Such discussions have been very inflammatory in rec.ham-radio in the past; please do not cross-post to both rec.radio.cb and rec.radio.amateur.* unless the topic is genuinely of interest to both hams and CBers - and very few topics are.

The rec.radio.info group is just what its name implies: it's the place where informational messages from across rec.radio.* may be found, regardless of where else they're posted. As of this writing, information posted to the group includes Cary Oler's daily solar propagation bulletins, ARRL bulletins, the Frequently Asked Questions files for the various groups, and radio modification instructions. This group is moderated, so you cannot post to it directly; if you try, even if your message is crossposted to one of the other groups, your message will be mailed to the moderator, who is currently Mark Salyzyn, VE6MGS. The email address for submissions to the group is rec-radio-info@ve6mgs.ampr.ab.ca. Inquiries and other administrivia should be directed to rec-radio-request@ve6mgs.ampr.ab.ca. For more information about rec.radio.info, consult the introduction and posting guidelines that are regularly posted to that newsgroup.

The groups rec.radio.amateur.antenna, .equipment, .homebrew, and .space are for more specialized areas of ham radio: discussions about antennas, commercially-made equipment, homebrewing, and amateur radio space operations. The .equipment group is not the place for buying or selling equipment; that's what rec.radio.swap is for. Similarly, the .space group is specifically about amateur radio in space, such as the OSCAR program and SAREX, the Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment; other groups cover other aspects of satellites and space. Homebrewing isn't about making your own alcoholic beverages at home (that's rec.crafts.brewing), but rather construction of radio and electronic

equipment by the amateur experimenter.

The rec.radio.amateur.misc, .packet, and .policy groups, and the rec.radio.info group, are available by Internet electronic mail in digest format; send a mail message containing "help" on a line by itself to listserv@ucsd.edu for instructions on how to use the mail server. The rec.radio.swap group is not available for reading by electronic mail. At this writing, the most recently added groups are also not available for reading by electronic mail, although that may change.

All of the groups can be posted to by electronic mail, though, by using a gateway at the University of Texas at Austin. To post a message this way, change the name of the group you wish to post to by replacing all of the '.'s with '-'s - for example, rec.radio.swap becomes rec-radio-swap - and send to that name@cs.utexas.edu (rec-radio-swap@cs.utexas.edu, for example). You may crosspost by including multiple addresses as Cc: entries (but see below). This gateway's continued availability is at the pleasure of the admins at UT-Austin, and is subject to going away at any time - and especially if forgeries and other net.abuses become a problem. You have been warned.

A Few Words on Crossposting

Please do not crosspost messages to two or more groups unless there is genuine interest in both groups in the topic being discussed, and when you do, please include a header line of the form "Followup-To: group.name" in your article's headers (before the first blank line). This will cause followups to your article to go to the group listed in the Followup-To: line. If you wish to have replies to go to you by email, rather than be posted, use the word "poster" instead of the name of a group. Such a line appears in the headers of this article.

One of the few examples of productive cross-posting is with the rec.radio.info newsgroup. To provide a filtered presentation of information articles, while still maintaining visibility in their home newsgroups, the moderator strongly encourages cross-posting. All information articles should be submitted to the rec.radio.info moderator so that he may simultaneously cross-post your information to the appropriate newsgroups. Most newsreaders will only present the article once, and network bandwidth is conserved since only one article is propagated. If you make regular informational postings, and have made arrangements with the moderator to post directly to the group, please cross-post as appropriate.

--

Jay Maynard, EMT-P, K5ZC, PP-ASEL | Never ascribe to malice that which can jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu | adequately be explained by stupidity.

"If my car ran OS/2, it'd be there by now" -- bumper sticker

GCS d++ p+ c++ l+ m+- s++ g++ w++ t+ r

73, Paul W. Schleck, KD3FU

pschleck@unomaha.edu

Celebrating 60 years of the Univ. of Maryland ARA - W3EAX (1933-1993)

Date: Wed, 30 Jun 1993 17:26:17 GMT

From: pravda.sdsc.edu!news.cerf.net!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!noc.near.net!
squam.banyan.com!banyan.com!dts@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Ham Comm 2.0 circuit
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <93180.172705UD116446@NDSUVM1.BITNET>, UD116446@NDSUVM1.BITNET writes:
|> A while ago I tried making the Ham Comm circuit. I hooked it up to a shortwave
|> radio and couldn't get anything understandable to show up. I guess the program
|> is supposed to decode RTTY and CW. Will it do either with a regular AM shortw
|> ave reciever? I also don't know what RTTY sounds like, so I can't be sure that
|> it didn't work. If anyone has had any luck with this program please tell me w
|> hat is wrong. Thanks!
|>

RTTY is received using Lower Sideband, so you'd need an SSB receiver for that. To receive CW you also need some sort of receiver that can provide a BFO or whatever. An SSB receiver works fine for CW. Your AM receiver is really not enough for either.

With an SSB receiver, tune to 14.080 - 14.090, and listen for a two-tone warbling sound. RTTY will occasionally stop with only one of the two tones being sent (the person has stopped typing, probably trying to think of what to say next).

Other modes you may hear in the area include PACTOR (bursts of 1/2 second or so?), AMTOR (sounds like crickets chirping, and HF Packet (Brrraaaappp noise). Your simple decoder circuit should work for the RTTY, but probably not for the others unless the software is pretty advanced.

Good luck!!

Daniel Senie Internet: dts@banyan.com
Banyan Systems, Inc. Compuserve: 74176,1347
508-898-1188 Packet Radio: N1JEB@WA1PHY.MA

Date: Wed, 30 Jun 1993 18:12:09 GMT
From: netcomsv!netcom.com!acooney@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Need advice re: direction finding @ 900MHz
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I've a friend at the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) who's doing some research and would like your advice. They'd like to monitor the handshake signals sent between a cellular car phone and the cellular site to determine a vehicle's location along the freeway. By getting signals from the same car at two or three different time intervals, they're hoping to determine vehicle speed along a given stretch of highway. This info would be fed to metering ramp controllers and local traffic monitoring stations for flow control and traveller advisories.

Sounds pretty simple, yes, but they'd like to be able to do it with one receiver site along a given stretch of road. Hence the need for rapid directional information from one location. The road's path and receiver location are known quantities, so only a bearing to the vehicle is needed to obtain it's location on the highway.

Can you offer any personal insight into the feasibility of such an RDF antenna system, and if so, how to implement it? Any thoughts on possible heading resolution available using various techniques at the 900MHz (or so) cellular frequencies? Could the antenna be fixed, yet offer directional information over, say, a 180 degree spread? Any personal recommendations on excellent texts on the subject? Any and all help will be greatly appreciated, and may some day even help you by reducing traffic congestion on your local highway :)

Cheers,
Alan
acooney@netcom.com

Date: Wed, 30 Jun 1993 19:44:15 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!spool.mu.edu!cass.ma02.bull.com!petra!
popovich@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Need advice re: direction finding @ 900MHz
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>I've a friend at the California Department of Transportation
>(CalTrans) who's doing some research and would like your

>advice. They'd like to monitor the handshake signals sent
>between a cellular car phone and the cellular site to determine
>a vehicle's location along the freeway. By getting signals
>from the same car at two or three different time intervals,
>they're hoping to determine vehicle speed along a given
>stretch of highway. This info would be fed to metering
>ramp controllers and local traffic monitoring stations for
>flow control and traveller advisories.

Yeesh! Big Brother strikes again! I suppose the information will also go to an automatic ticket-writing computer whenever a vehicle's speed exceeds 55 MPH, or whatever the limit is along that particular stretch of highway. After all, they're already obtaining this information for "flow control and traveller advisories", and this would allow them to make some money while they were at it...since the cellular phone information can be used to determine which telephone and thus which vehicle is sending out the signals, they can just mail the tickets to the registered owner's address and save themselves a lot of trouble while they're fleecing him or her. Feh! Sigh.

-Steve

Date: 30 Jun 1993 12:16 EST
From: overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!
magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!lerc.nasa.gov!lerc.nasa.gov!
lims01.lerc.nasa.gov!lwwald@dog.ee.lbl.gov
Subject: Number for W & W Associates Needed
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The subject says it all...I called the 800 directory and didn't exactly get the number I was looking for!!

Larry, KE8GW

Date: 30 Jun 1993 19:01:06 +0100
From: pipex!warwick!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Operation in Tanzania
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I hope to be active from 5H for 3 months starting July 4th or so, on the HF bands, mostly CW. Would be pleased to hear any net-folk, and would do my best to accommodate skeds on various bands whilst there, so feel free to ask, if anybody does hear me. Probably will have a fairly weak signal into NA due to power (and antenna) limitations. Would also be happy to try 2-way QRP upon request, and may occasionally be found on the QRP frequencies anyway, though I

don't anticipate too much success on that front.

I don't know what call I'll be issued yet, as that'll probably be finalised when I get there, but I may use 5H3FE (poss. 'FOE) in Dar-es-Salaam, which is the call of the university engineering faculty station. Will probably operate from various locations around the country, as I'll be travelling with the work, staying approx 1 week in most of the places on the agenda (Dar, Tanga, Moshi, Arusha, Mwanza, Mbeya and one or two others).

QSLs will be via my home call, either direct (ssae please) or buro, though obviously nothing will be done until approx October when I'm settled back here.

73

Simon - G0GWA.

Date: 30 Jun 1993 17:54:09 GMT
From: koriel!news2me.EBay.Sun.COM!seven-up.East.Sun.COM!dr-pepper.East.Sun.COM!
hienergy!jimv@ames.arpa
Subject: Repeater coordination, complaints?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Jun30.165057.24932@porthos.cc.bellcore.com>
whs70@dancer.cc.bellcore.com (sohl,william h) writes:
>In article <20sami\$594@dr-pepper.East.Sun.COM> jimv@hienergy.East.Sun.COM
> (Jim Vienneau - Sun Microsystems) writes:
>>I live in central Mass. We have a local repeater on 147.315 (WB1EWS). There
>>is a repeater in Prospect, CT (N1ADE) on the same frequency that is at least
>up the Mass. repeater or vice versa. Does the signal from the CT
>repeater actually cause interference with the output of the Mass.
>repeater if both signals are present? If not, then it seems the

Yes, the signal is often strong enough that it mixes with the local repeater causing you to not be able to understand the output. Other times (anytime the CT machine is up mostly) it just opens your squelch. Yes, I realize we can force everyone to buy PL. The repeater has a tone on the output already. It still doesn't answer the question of responsible use of the spectrum. If every repeater ran legal limit, no matter if they needed to or not, it would be havoc. Not to mention illegal, you see there's this little "no more than necessary" law that most hams ignore on a regular basis. I'm really surprised by the tone of responses I've received so far. Most seem to be of the "tough, if you don't like it go PL" tone, not what I expected.

I did overstate the mileage, looks like 100 to 125 miles rather than 200,

it was just a guess.

--
Jim Vienneau, Sun Microsystems Inc - Chelmsford, MA
Email: jimv@east.sun.com, Amateur Radio: WB1B
Good old Ma Bell (well old anyway): (508)442-0372

Date: 30 Jun 1993 18:24:26 GMT
From: nothing.ucsd.edu!brian@network.UCSD.EDU
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <20sami\$594@dr-pepper.East.Sun.COM>,
<1993Jun30.170512.23941@peavax.mlo.dec.com>, <20sjct\$5ot@dr-pepper.East.Sun.COM>
Subject : Re: Repeater coordination, complaints?

Well look, dude, the only other solution that will work is for you or them to change frequency.

If you have to share the frequency, CTCSS is the right answer.

Reducing power DOESN'T work. If they're S5 to S7, they could drop from 100 watts to 1 watt and you'll still hear them just fine. There will probably still be spots in town where you won't be able to tighten your squelch enough that you won't hear them.

Of course, the assumption is that they're on "your" frequency because they were coordinated there. Typically coordinations are granted on a trial basis. Can you find them another frequency they can use that won't annoy anyone? Or can you find another frequency your system can move to that won't annoy anyone? It's rare enough nowadays that any area of the country has enough unused frequencies that you CAN find one. If you can, then that's an answer.

Otherwise, you're stuck.

- Brian

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #800
